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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 99F-1867]

Asahi Chemical Industry Co. and Japan Synthetic Rubber Co.; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Asahi Chemical Industry Co. and Japan Synthetic Rubber Co. have filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of 2,4-diphenyl-4-methyl-1-pentene (common name alpha-methylstyrene dimer) in the manufacture of coatings for food-contact paper and paperboard.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 9B4666) has been filed by Asahi Chemical Industry Co. and Japan Synthetic Rubber Co., c/o Environ International Corp., 4350 North Fairfax Dr., suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 176.170

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Components of paper and paperboard in contact with aqueous and fatty foods (21 CFR 176.170) and § 176.180 Components of paper and paperboard in contact with dry food (21 CFR 176.180) to provide for the safe use of 2,4-diphenyl-4-methyl-1-pentene (common name alphamethylstyrene dimer) in the manufacture of coatings for food-contact paper and paperboard.

The agency has determined under 21 CFR 25.32(i) that this action is of a type that does not individually or cumulatively have a

significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

Dated: June 2, 1999

June 2, 1999

Alan M. Rulis

Director

Office of Premarket Approval

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

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